

§Appl. No. 10/030,688
Amdt. dated November 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action of, August 24, 2004

Listing of Claims:

Please **amend** the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide ~~selected from one of the groups~~ consisting which is of:

- (a) an isolated polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide comprising ~~thesequence~~ the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; or
- (b) ~~an isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide sequence having at least 95% identity to the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;~~
- (c) ~~an isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and~~
- (d) ~~(b)~~ the an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~and~~
- (e) ~~fragments and variants of such polypeptides in (a) to (d).~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, comprising ~~the polypeptide~~ an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, consisting of the amino acid which is the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

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Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) An expression ~~system~~ vector comprising a polynucleotide ~~capable of producing a polypeptide of claim 1 when~~ of claim 13, wherein said expression vector is capable of producing the polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide when is present in a compatible host cell.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A recombinant host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 6. ~~or a membrane thereof expressing the polypeptide of an isolated polypeptide selected from one of the groups consisting of:~~

~~(a) an isolated polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;~~

~~(b) an isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide sequence having at least 95% identity to the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and~~

~~(c) an isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and (d) the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and~~

~~(e) fragments and variants of such polypeptides in (a) to (d).~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A process for producing an isolated a seripancrin polypeptide, comprising:

culturing a host cell of claim 7 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide. ~~selected from one of the groups consisting of:~~

~~(a) an isolated polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;~~

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~~(b) an isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide sequence having at least 95% identity to the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and~~

~~(c) and isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and~~

~~(d) the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and~~

~~(e) fragments and variants of such polypeptides in (a) to (d);~~

~~comprising the step of culturing a host cell as defined in claim 7 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.~~

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A fusion protein ~~consisting of the~~ comprising an Immunoglobulin Fc-region and ~~any one polypeptide~~ a polypeptide of claim 1.

Claim 10 Previously Presented) An antibody immunospecific for the polypeptide of claim 1.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A method for screening to identify compounds that stimulate or inhibit the function or level of a seripancrin ~~the~~ polypeptide of claim 1 comprising a method selected from the group consisting of:

~~(a) measuring or, detecting, quantitatively or qualitatively, the binding of a candidate compound to the polypeptide (or to the cells or membranes expressing the polypeptide) or a fusion protein thereof by means of a label directly or indirectly associated with the candidate compound;~~

~~(b) measuring the competition of binding of a candidate compound to the polypeptide (or to the cells or membranes expressing the polypeptide) or a fusion protein thereof in the presence of a labeled competitor~~ competitor;

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(c) testing whether the candidate compound results in a signal generated by activation or inhibition of the polypeptide when expressed in a recombinant host cell, ~~using detection systems appropriate to the cells or cell membranes expressing the polypeptide;~~

(d) mixing a candidate compound with a solution containing a the polypeptide of claim 1, to form a mixture, measuring activity of the polypeptide in the mixture, and comparing the activity of the mixture to a control mixture which contains no candidate compound; or

(e) detecting the effect of a candidate compound on the production of mRNA encoding said polypeptide or said polypeptide in recombinant host cells, ~~using for instance, an ELISA assay, and~~

~~(f) producing said compound according to biotechnological or chemical standard techniques.~~

Claim 12 (New) An isolated polynucleotide which comprises:

(a) a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or

(b) a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 13 (New) An isolated polynucleotide of claim 12, which comprises a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 14 (New) An isolated polynucleotide of claim 12, which comprises a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

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Claim 15 (New) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 14, wherein said expression vector is capable of producing the polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide when present in a compatible host cell.

Claim 16 (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 15.

Claim 17 (New) A process of claim 8, further comprising recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.

Claim 18 (New) A process for producing a seripancrin polypeptide, comprising:
culturing a host cell of claim 16 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide.

Claim 19 (New) A process of claim 16, further comprising recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.